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BOROUGH OF DARWEN.



REPORT

OF

James Robertson,

M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

AND

Medical Officer to the Education Committee,

FOR THE

Year ending December 31st, 1924.

DARWEN:

Printed by the Exors. of J. J. Riley, "News" Office.

MCMXXV.



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HEALTH OFFICE,

DARWEN,

April, 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

It affords me pleasure in presenting to you my SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, which is also the FORTY-SEVENTH REPORT since the incorporation of the Borough.

I take this opportunity of thanking all the Members of my Staff for their willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Members of the Health Committee

1924-1925.

* COUNCILLOR R. MARSDEN, J.P., MAYOR.

Chairman :

* ALDERMAN W. WORTH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

* ALDERMAN G. P. HOLDEN, J.P.

ALDERMAN J. COCKER, J.P.

„ *F. HINDLE, C.C.

„ H. C. JEPSON.

„ J. PICKUP, J.P.

COUNCILLOR WM. AINSWORTH, J.P.

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„ *DR. G. W. BURY.

„ E. L. CARUS, J.P.

„ *G. BUTTERWORTH, J.P.

„ *F. C. DUCKWORTH.

„ A. DUCKWORTH.

* MEMBER OF HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLOR H. B. ECCLES, J.P.

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J.P., C.C.

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„ W. KNOWLES.

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„ *R. MARSDEN.

„ G. PICKUP, J.P.

„ JOHN B. THORNLEY, J.P.

„ *W. A. SHEPHERD.

„ D. SMITH.

„ A. J. WATSON.

TOWN CLERK HARRY ROTHWELL.

Staff of the Health Department.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	}	JAMES ROBERTSON, M.B., M.S. D.P.H.
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER		
MEDICAL OFFICER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL		

SANITARY INSPECTORS.....	}	(South Division)—W. E. MARSDEN, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
		(North Division)—C. R. WALSH, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.

Appointed Senior Sanitary Inspector, February, 1923,
Public Health (Officers) Act, 1921.

SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTOR.....C. R. WALSH, CERTIF. MEAT INSP.

SHOPS INSPECTOR W. E. MARSDEN.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCAVENGING.....JOSEPH NICCOLL.

MATRON, INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL..... MISS E. ANTHONY.

HEALTH VISITORS.....	{	MRS. H. H. SHAWCROSS, C.M.B.
		MISS C. DWYER, C.M.B., C.R.S.I., M. & C.W. CERTIFICATE.

CLERKS.... F. LITTLECOTT, C.R.S.I., AND E. MCGLYNN.

REPORT.



The Ministry of Health have decided that full reports, referred to in their circular as Survey Reports—such as are usually made from year to year, will now be normally required at intervals of not more than five years, and that during the intervening period minor reports—referred to in the circular as ordinary reports—will be all that are necessary.

AREA (Acres), 5,919.

POPULATION (1924), 39,060.

Population in Wards.

Wards.	Census, 1921 (Estimated).	(Estimated) 1924.
CENTRAL	6,314	6,369
WEST CENTRAL	3,474	3,504
NORTH-EAST	9,013	9,093
NORTH-WEST	6,948	7,008
SOUTH-EAST	6,850	6,910
SOUTH-WEST	6,121	6,176
TOTAL	<u>38,720</u>	<u>39,060</u>

Number of inhabited houses (1921), 10,082 ; (1924), 10,326.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921), 10,145.

Rateable Value, £218,706 5s. od.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £821.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1924.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Birth Rate.
BIRTHS—Legitimate	613	325	288	16.28
Illegitimate	23	8	15	
	<u>636</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>303</u>	
DEATHS	582	274	308	14.90

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Child-birth :—From sepsis, 4 ; from other causes, 3.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—Total, 43 (Rate 67) ; Legitimate, 42 (Rate 68) ; Illegitimate, 1 (Rate 43).

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 3.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 4.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :—None.

RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Rate of Deaths under 1 Year to 1000 Births
Mean of 10 years, 1914-23...	15.5	14.5	0.68	92
1923	15.4	13.5	0.56	78
1924	16.2	14.9	0.53	67

Increase or Decrease in 1924 on :—						
Ten Years' Average	+0.7	+0.4	-0.15	-25		
Previous year	+0.8	+1.4	-0.03	-11		

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1924.

Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1924, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1923. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.

	Birth-Rate per 1000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.									Rate per 1,000 Births.	
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under Two Years)	Total Deaths under One Year.
England and Wales.....	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.10	0.06	0.49	0.44	7.3	75
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	19.4	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.18	0.03	0.12	0.08	0.45	0.40	9.2	80
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	18.9	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.09	0.06	0.50	0.36	6.2	71
London	18.7	12.1	0.01	0.00	0.29	0.03	0.11	0.12	0.36	0.44	8.4	69
Darwen	16.2	14.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.97	0.33	6.2	67

Marriages.

The number of Marriages solemnized in Darwen during the year ending December 31st, 1924, was as follows:—

Church of England	159
Nonconformist Places of Worship	142
Total	301

This means that 602 people were united in the bonds of wedlock, and is at the rate of 15.41 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 16.62 per 1,000 in the previous year.

Year.	Births.		Deaths.		Marriages.	
	Number	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Number.	Rate.
1915	666	16.23	590	15.21	742	19.1
1916	562	13.91	545	14.68	510	13.7
1917	427	11.18	490	14.29	390	21.3
1918	353	9.58	692	21.08	472	12.8
1919	495	12.61	520	13.80	994	25.3
1920	845	21.56	510	13.01	1068	27.2
1921	753	19.44	448	11.57	736	19.0
1922	674	17.37	561	14.45	726	18.7
1923	602	15.44	528	13.54	648	16.6
1924	636	16.28	582	14.90	602	15.4
Average 10 Years...	601	15.36	546	14.65	688	18.9



Births.

The number of Children born during the year was: Males 333, Females 303, making a total of 636; being 34 more than in the previous twelve months, and at the rate of 0.84 per 1,000 higher than in 1923.

The Birth Rate for year was 16.28 per 1,000. In December there were 8 Transfer Births, thus making the highest birth rate, viz.: 20.58 per 1,000; and in February it was the lowest, the figure being 12.59 per 1,000.

TABLE showing the Estimated Populations, Number of Births, and the Birth-Rates for the Darwen Sanitary District for the last Ten Years.

Year.	Estimated Population at the Middle of Each Year.	Total Births.	Birth-Rate
1915	41,038	666	16.23
1916	40,381	562	13.91
1917	38,210	447	11.18
1918	36,814	353	9.58
1919	39,252	495	12.61
1920	39,182	815	21.56
1921	38,720	753	19.44
1922	38,800	674	17.37
1923	38,980	602	15.44
1924	39,060	636	16.28

Average for the last 10 years, 15.36.

BIRTH-RATES IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1915	16.59	13.33	18.65	12.03	19.98	15.13	16.23
1916	14.10	9.97	14.98	11.05	14.64	17.26	13.91
1917	11.82	10.54	13.74	8.75	10.27	11.11	11.18
1918	8.74	9.81	10.15	9.08	9.54	10.17	9.58
1919	12.30	12.36	14.74	9.39	14.17	12.27	12.61
1920	22.43	18.71	24.90	17.51	22.76	21.23	21.56
1921	22.33	18.13	21.74	14.82	20.14	18.29	19.44
1922	18.01	17.81	19.48	15.51	15.44	17.60	17.37
1923	17.14	16.29	16.32	12.15	15.97	15.09	15.44
1924	16.17	18.83	16.16	13.84	19.24	14.57	16.28
Averages for 10 Years.	15.96	14.57	17.08	12.41	16.21	15.27	15.36

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Twenty-three Children were born out of wedlock during the year. This gives a rate of 3.61 per cent. of total births. Since 1915 the average annual number is 25.

The rate per cent. of Births averages 3.61, and 1922 is the highest with 5.48.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of Illegimates for the year was 43 and the average for the last 10 years was 129.

**TABLE showing number of Illegitimate Births, etc.,
during the past Ten years.**

Year.	Number of Births.	Rate % of Total Births.	No. of Deaths under 1 Year.	Death-rate per 1,000 Births.
1915	20	3.00	2	100
1916	27	4.80	0	0
1917	17	3.96	2	118
1918	16	4.53	3	188
1919	22	4.44	5	227
1920	35	4.14	6	171
1921	34	4.52	3	88
1922	37	5.48	6	162
1923	20	3.32	4	200
1924	23	3.61	1	43
Average	25	4.18	3	129

ILLECITIMATE BIRTHS.

	Number	Percentage of Births.
JANUARY	1	1.85
FEBRUARY	2	4.88
MARCH	0	0.00
APRIL	1	2.38
MAY	4	6.89
JUNE	2	3.17
JULY	1	2.22
AUGUST	0	0.00
SEPTEMBER	1	1.76
OCTOBER	0	0.00
NOVEMBER	3	5.66
DECEMBER	8	11.94
	23	3.61

BIRTHS IN WARDS, 1924.

	Central.		West-Central.		North-East.		North-West.		South-East.		South-West.		Total.		Rate per 1,000 estimated Population
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
January	4	5	4	3	14	5	1	4	8	3	1	2	32	22	16.58
February	3	4	2	1	2	5	3	4	5	3	2	7	17	24	12.59
March	6	3	2	.	4	11	5	2	4	3	7	4	28	23	15.66
April	5	3	1	5	7	3	3	4	4	3	2	2	22	20	12.89
May	5	5	8	2	4	7	4	4	5	7	3	4	29	29	17.81
June	6	4	1	5	4	7	4	7	10	6	5	4	30	33	19.35
July	7	4	2	3	5	5	2	5	6	4	1	1	23	22	13.82
August	4	2	1	2	7	4	9	6	8	2	6	6	35	22	17.51
September	3	2	3	4	10	5	5	1	5	9	2	7	28	28	17.20
October	3	3	3	3	13	5	6	3	8	6	4	2	37	22	18.12
November	7	2	3	2	6	4	1	4	4	2	4	4	25	18	13.21
December	5	8	2	4	2	8	5	5	8	10	5	5	27	40	20.58
	58	45	32	34	78	69	48	49	75	58	42	48	333	303	16.28
TOTAL ..	103		66		147		97		133		90		636		
Population	6,369		3,504		9,093		7,008		6,910		6,176		39,060		
Birth-rate	16.17		18.83		16.16		13.84		19.24		14.57				

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths during the year was 582 ; males 274, females 308 ; being an increase of 54 on the previous year.

The Death Rate for the year is 14.90, an increase of 1.36 on the previous year.

The number of Deaths of Residents in Institutions, etc., outside the district was 119, which has been added to the 463 deaths registered within the district, making a total of 582.

These Deaths are reported to me quarterly by the Registrar General, through the County Medical Officer of Health.

The number of Deaths in the Union Workhouse, Blackburn, was 53
 „ „ „ Royal Infirmary, Blackburn 41
 „ „ „ other Institutions and Places 25

Fourteen Deaths of Non-Residents occurred in the town during the year.

INQUESTS.

There were 28 Inquests held during the year, compared with 37 during 1923. The following were the verdicts :—

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Accidental Death	22	20	15	16	12	17	12	15	12	16
Natural Causes..	7	6	3	8	12	14	9	8	18	11
Suicide	9	4	4	2	2	9	4	5	7	1
	38	30	22	26	26	40	25	28	37	28

Death-Rates per 1,000 of the Population in the various Wards of the Borough.

WARDS Population	Central 6369	West- Central 3504	North- East 9093	North- West 7008	South- East 6910	South- West 6176	Borough 39060
1924							
January.. . . .	13.18	20.54	17.16	22.26	8.68	9.71	15.05
February	11.30	13.69	11.87	6.84	10.41	11.65	10.75
March	20.72	23.97	23.75	15.41	27.78	5.82	19.66
April.....	18.84	17.12	21.11	30.82	8.68	9.71	18.12
May	11.30	13.69	6.59	5.13	26.04	1.94	10.44
June	11.30	6.84	3.95	13.69	5.20	5.82	7.67
July	5.65	10.27	3.95	6.84	5.20	7.77	6.14
August	5.65	6.84	7.91	10.27	12.15	9.71	8.90
September	9.42	6.84	10.56	8.56	6.94	9.71	8.90
October.....	9.42	10.27	3.95	20.54	8.68	7.77	9.83
November... .	9.42	13.69	5.27	10.27	13.89	27.20	12.59
December... .	15.07	30.82	10.56	13.69	12.15	11.65	14.13
Transfers.....	36.68	65.06	32.99	47.94	20.83	29.14	36.55
Rate for year...	14.91	23.97	13.30	17.69	13.89	12.14	14.90

Death Rates in the Various Wards for the past Ten Years.

Year	C.	W C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Borough.
1915	17.56	15.49	15.17	14.54	13.01	15.72	15.21
1916	17.34	13.99	15.85	15.48	12.01	12.66	14.68
1917	15.35	9.80	17.68	12.88	13.01	14.26	14.29
1918	21.67	20.46	23.60	16.19	21.25	22.81	21.08
1919	14.13	11.89	16.31	12.14	12.58	14.32	13.80
1920	14.53	12.73	13.30	11.40	13.01	12.80	13.01
1921	13.30	12.09	12.75	12.08	8.46	10.61	11.57
1922	15.48	15.22	14.28	15.80	11.94	14.50	14.45
1923	14.15	12.58	12.56	15.01	14.93	11.67	13.54
1924	14.91	23.97	13.30	17.69	13.89	12.14	14.90
Average...	15.84	14.82	15.48	14.32	13.40	14.14	14.65

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DARWEN, M.B., 1924.

Causes of Death (Civilians only).	Males.	Females.
All Causes.	274	308
1. Enteric Fever	—	—
2. Small Pox	—	—
3. Measles	—	1
4. Scarlet Fever	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	3
6. Diphtheria	—	—
7. Influenza	21	17
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	4
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	5	15
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	1
12. Cancer, malignant disease	29	42
13. Rheumatic Fever	—	—

Causes of Death (continued).		Males.	Females.
14.	Diabetes	3	1
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	11	26
16.	Heart Disease	28	36
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	16	8
18.	Bronchitis	23	25
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	37	30
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
21.	Uleer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	3
22.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	1	3
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2	2
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
25.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	14	12
26.	Puerperal Sepsis	—	4
27.	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	—	3
28.	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	17	7
29.	Suicide	1	—
30.	Other Deaths from violence	10	2
31.	Other defined diseases	49	57
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	4
Special Causes (included above)—			
	Poliomyelitis	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—			
	Total	24	19
	Illegitimate	—	1
Total Births		333	303
	Legitimate	325	288
	Illegitimate	8	15
Population		39,060.	
The death-rate for the year was 14.90 per 1,000.			

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1924 :—

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.														Total Deaths	Hospital.	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	YEARS.														Total Cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over				
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	37	...	2	2	4	11	12	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	24	...	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	4	2	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	...	4	1	1	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	34	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	3	12	5	6	3	12	4	1	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis... ..	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	12	2	3	2	21	30	5	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis... ..	15	...	1	1	2	1	3	2	1	3	...	1	...	5	5	2	...
Any other diseases notifiable in district, <i>e.g.</i> :—																	
Measles and German Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals... ..	135	7	4	3	7	13	15	9	13	34	10	14	6	54	68	9	...

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				DEATHS The number of deaths classified should agree with the total supplied by the Registrar-General.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0-1...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5...	...	...	5	...	1	...	2	...
5-10	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
10-15	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...
15-20	...	6	1	...	...	5	...	...
20-25	1	4	1	...	...	4	...	...
25-35	3	4	...	2	1	4	2	...
35-45	1	1	...	...	1	2	...	...
45-55	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
55-65	...	...	...	1	...	1	..	1
65 and upwards	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	10	17	10	5	5	16	4	1
	27		15		21		5	

Specify the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths?—1 to 13.

Cases are fairly efficiently notified. No action has been taken.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
Number Notified	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
4	2	2	4	...	...	...

Specify any causes of sickness and invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the district during the year. (This should include information obtained from local general practitioners).—There was a severe epidemic of Mumps which spread throughout the town and attacked not only children but a large number of adults. There were no deaths from this disease.

Number of times School Closure adopted for—Scarlet Fever, Nil; Diphtheria, Nil; Measles, Nil; Whooping Cough, Nil; Chicken-pox, Once; Influenza, Nil; Any other Diseases (specify same); Mumps, Once.

Number of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—Nil.

Thirty-four cases of Tuberculosis were sent to various sanatoria and hospitals for surgical cases. Fifteen of these were discharged and three died before the end of the year.

The Examination of Sputum on Discharge was positive in 7 cases and negative in 5, and in the other 3 cases there was no examination result.

The Consumptive Patients from Darwen were sent to the following Institutions:—

5	Patients to	High Carley, Ulverston.
10	„	Bull Hill, Darwen.
2	„	Peel Hall, Little Hulton.
2	„	Meathop, Grange.
3	„	Shelf, Halifax.
3	„	Queen's Park, Blackburn.
2	„	Pilkington, St. Helens.
2	„	Burnley, Burnley.
1	Patient to	Elswick.
1	„	Wilkinson, near Bolton.
1	„	King Edward, Midhurst.
1	„	Eastby near Skipton.
1	„	Heath Charnock, near Chorley.

During the year 54 patients were sent by the County Committee to Bull Hill Sanatorium.

Table showing the number of Pathological Specimens which have been sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Victoria University, Manchester.

YEAR.	Diphtheria.				Typhoid Fever.				Tuberculosis Sputum.			Cerebro-Spinal Fever.					
												Spinal fluid			Swabs.		
	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Doubt ful.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Doubt ful.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total
1911.....	6	8	...	14	4	7	...	11	2	9	11	..	...	...	...	...	...
1912.....	7	4	...	11	...	...	...	...	7	11	18	...	...	...	..	...	...
1913.....	8	8	...	16	1	7	...	8	28	33	61	...	...	...	...	...	...
1914.....	4	9	1	14	6	2	...	8	65	57	122	...	...	...	...	...	...
1915.....	...	12	...	12	2	4	...	6	58	60	118	1	..	1	..	2	2
1916.....	6	7	...	13	1	4	1	6	74	50	124	...	1	1	...	3	3
1917.....	8	16	1	25	1	8	...	9	56	64	120	...	...	...	...	...	...
1918.....	4	4	1	9	2	1	...	3	42	76	118	...	...	...	...	...	...
1919.....	7	8	1	16	...	...	...	...	34	59	93	...	...	...	...	...	...
1920.....	8	11	1	20	2	...	...	2	38	48	86	...	...	...	...	...	...
1921.....	9	20	...	29	1	4	...	5	10	21	31	...	...	...	..	...	...
1922.....	5	9	...	14	5	5	...	10	2	13	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
1923.....	8	23	2	33	2	4	...	6	3	12	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
1924.....	...	4	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	17	17	...	...	...	...	...	...

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
3.0	1.9	2.0	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.1	2.1	2.2	1.6	2.08	2.34	2.90	2.14	1.03	0.76	2.07	1.00
1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
1.14	0.69	0.76	1.10	0.51	1.51	0.86	0.27	0.44	1.42	0.54	0.32	0.42	0.19	0.12	0.12	0.64	0.07	0.20

Notification of Infectious Diseases in each Ward, and for each Month of the Year 1924.

MONTHS.	CEN-TRAL.				WEST-CENTRAL				NORTH-EAST.				NORTH-WEST.				SOUTH-EAST.				SOUTH-WEST.				BOROUGH						Total.						
	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia	Enceph. Leth.	Puerperal Fever.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Ophthalmia Neon.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Tuberculosis.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Enceph. Leth.	Ophthalmia Neon.	Pneumonia.	Tuberculosis.									
JANUARY ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	4								
FEBRUARY	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	2	3	8								
MARCH	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	5									
APRIL	1	3	...	1	...	3	...	...	2	1	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	7	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	20	3	26									
MAY	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	2	1	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	2	2	...	1	5	1	1	...	...	5	7	19								
JUNE	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	4									
JULY	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	5	...	...	...	1	5	11									
AUGUST	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	4	...	1	1	2	...	6	14									
SEPTEMBER	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	1	...	3	8									
OCTOBER ..	3	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	2	4	14									
NOVEMBER	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	1	...	1	4	10									
DECEMBER	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	4	...	1	1	...	...	3	3	12									
TOTALS ..	9	5	1	1	5	1	6	7	2	3	6	10	7	1	1	5	5	6	2	1	3	10	8	7	2	1	1	2	837	2	5	6	5	4	34	42	135

RETURN OF VACCINATION FOR DARWEN. 1924.

MONTHS.	Successful Vaccination.	Died Unvaccinated.	Insusceptible.	Ex-empted	Post-poned.	Re-moved out of Town and Traced.	Re-moved and Cannot Trace	Unac-counted for.	Success-fully vaccinated each quarter.
January ..	23	4	0	27	0	0	0	0	52
February...	12	0	0	27	0	0	0	2	
March	17	2	0	31	0	0	0	1	
April	16	3	0	22	0	1	0	0	
May	31	1	0	23	2	0	0	1	72
June	25	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	
July	18	3	0	22	0	0	1	1	
August ..	13	5	0	38	1	0	0	0	
September..	12	3	0	36	0	0	0	5	43
October ..	6	6	0	39	0	1	0	7	
November..	2	0	0	19	0	0	0	22	11
December...	3	0	0	20	0	0	0	36	
	178	27	0	342	3	2	1	75	178

VACCINATION.

Year	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Rate per cent Vaccinated
1914	765	271	35.42
1915	666	209	31.38
1916	562	200	35.58
1917	427	153	34.43
1918	353	116	32.86
1919	495	134	27.07
1920	845	195	23.07
1921	753	231	30.67
1922	674	169	24.92
1923	602	208	34.55
1924	636	178	27.98

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Arrangements in the district for—(a) General Nursing. There is no Institution in the District but there is a District Nursing Association. (b) For Infectious Diseases the Council make a grant to the District Nursing Association of £10 10s. od. and pay 1/- per nursing visit for attendance upon cases of Puerperal Fever, Pneumonia (in children up to 5 years' old), Infantile Diarrhoea, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Anterior Poliomyelitis.

About six District Nurses are employed by the Association.

Mr. J. Pomfret, financial secretary to the District Nursing Association, has kindly supplied me with the following particulars:—

		Gross Income.			Net. Expenditure.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1923		2,629	13	6	1,964	16	5
1924		2,637	13	4	2,545	1	4

An Orthopædic Clinic for treatment of cases has been established in connection with this Association.

The Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary is an Institution standing at the Southern end of the neighbouring Borough of Blackburn.

Every case sent from Darwen is admitted.

The Secretary, Mr. Nathan A. Smith supplied the following information of patients from Darwen treated in the Institution.

	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
In-Patients	242	259	281	247	276	345	356	360	394	400	403
Out-Pat'ts	498	565	621	623	663	722	700	756	766	822	824

Based upon the ordinary expenditure for the year, the Cost of Treatment of these Patients was £2,987.

Midwives.—None employed by the Local Authority.

On the County Council Register there are 15 Midwives, all of whom are practising in the Borough.

The number of midwives practising is sufficient for the district.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There are two whole-time Health Visitors.

The Education Committee adopted a scheme whereby the girls over 13 years of age should attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre on two afternoons, thereby giving an attendance of five hours to this subject.

The Secretary of Education arranges the schools in sequence. The senior girls of a school come to the Welfare Centre in charge of their teacher. They give 2½ hours' attendance on a given day one week, followed by 2½ hours' attendance upon the same day during the next week, and thus completing this school's attendance. Girls from another school follow and have similar instruction. This successive arrangement goes on until all the senior girls have passed through the Centre.

INSTRUCTION GIVEN.

FIRST DAY'S ATTENDANCE:—Wall diagrams are explained. The Medical Officer speaks to the girls upon GROWTH and CLOTHING, and extends the talk to the growth and clothing of the girls themselves. The address is accompanied by blackboard illustrations.

The girls are then placed under the charge of a Nurse who further explains clothing, and shows to the girls model sets (natural size) for babies, toddlers, and grown-ups; supplies them with patterns, and gives them other details for entry in their notebooks.

They then pass on to a second Nurse, in charge of the weighing room. Here they see the babies stripped and weighed, they observe and have explained to them the record cards, and the uses of a Child Welfare Centre.

SECOND VISIT:—The Medical Officer speaks to the girls regarding the care of the skin, teeth, food, and again applies the lesson to themselves.

A nurse gives a demonstration in bathing and the need for careful attention to the hair. The mothers present allow the girls to nurse their babies, in this they are carefully watched, and any errors in holding and handling corrected, reasons being given. The mothers in this lesson become interested and ask many questions.

The girls again pass to the weighing room. They are now asked to read the weights, and told the baby's age in months, and have to write in their notebooks what weight in their opinion baby is. The baby is then weighed and compared with their estimates.

The time is spent in question and answer.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at 43, Bolton Road, is firmly established and is open each day from 9 to 10 a.m., and from 4-30 to 5-30 p.m., when interviews with the Nurses may take place. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2-30 to 4-30 p.m., Special Meetings are held, the babies being weighed, and talks are given to the mothers on various domestic subjects. I am in attendance for consultation, and I also interview applicants who may request free milk grants to be made.

A Centre was started at the South end of the town. Greenfield Institute, which is situated there, was offered to us at a rental of £10 per annum. The accommodation is good and the building completely furnished, and in every way suited to our requirements. This Centre was opened on 3rd April, 1924, and is open each Thursday from 2-30 to 5 p.m. and has been well attended.

The following are particulars of the work of the Health Visitors—

First Visits	593
Second and Subsequent Visits	3989
Visits to Children over 1 year and under 5 years	4798
Visits to Expectant Mothers	765
Visits re Stillbirths	27
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—First	4
Visits to Babies suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Second and Subsequent Visits	8
Visits to Babies suffering from Measles and other infectious diseases	154
Other Special Visits	198
	10,536

The following particulars were obtained on first visits—

Feeding—

Breast	354
Bottle	136
Breast and Bottle	102
Spoon	1
	593

Types of Bottles Used—

Bottles without Tubes (including medicine bottles etc.)	205
Bottles with Glass Tubes	25
Bottles with Rubber Tubes	8
	238

Foods—

Mother's Milk (Diluted, per Bottle)	1
Cow's Milk (undiluted)	30
Cow's Milk and Water	82
Cow's Milk and Barley Water	71
Cow's Milk Citrated	5
Nestle's Milk	4
Dried Milk	35
Patent Foods	10
	238

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Bolton Road. Greenfield.

Number of babies who have been weighed during the year	701	...	108
Babies specially examined by the Medical Officer	96	...	28
Babies referred to Family Doctor for Treatment	69	...	14
Babies recommended for Institution Treatment	53	...	14
Average Attendance of Expectant Mothers per Session...	2	...	1
Average Attendance of Mothers ,, ,, ...	25	...	18
Average Attendance of Children ,, ,, ...	30	...	21

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS.

Table showing the number of Births Notified during 1924.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Stillborn.
JANUARY	27	22	49	0
FEBRUARY	25	22	47	5
MARCH	22	24	46	4
APRIL	30	29	59	1
MAY	19	30	49	1
JUNE	33	20	53	2
JULY	33	24	57	3
AUGUST	31	22	53	1
SEPTEMBER	31	27	58	2
OCTOBER	38	23	61	1
NOVEMBER	21	33	54	3
DECEMBER	21	34	55	3
	331	310	641	26

Births Notified by Midwives	623
Births Notified by Medical Men	4
Births Notified by Parents	1
Births Notified by Midwives and Medical Men	12
Births Notified by Parents and Medical Men	0
Births Notified by Parents and Midwives	1
Births Notified by Others	0
Total	641

Table showing Births Notified, Visits, etc.

Year.	Births Notified.				Births not Notified.		Births Visited.		Births Revisited
	Males.	Females	Total.	Still-born.	No.	Prose-cutions.	No.	% of Total	
1915	343	338	681	33	12	0	432	63.4	576
1916	272	292	564	27	9	0	421	78.2	596
1917	224	204	428	20	8	0	397	92.8	1370
1918	180	168	348	19	11	0	320	91.9	1477
1919	266	273	539	34	3	0	442	82.0	1294
1920	448	432	880	58	6	0	709	80.5	1054
1921	395	380	775	39	11	0	431	55.6	1111
1922	335	337	672	30	10	0	472	70.2	1157
1923	303	326	629	33	5	0	596	100.0	2545
1924	331	310	641	26	3	0	593	92.5	3989

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Year	Premature Birth	Convulsions	Bronchitis & Pneumonia	Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough	Measles	Inanition	Congenital Defects	Other Causes	Total	Rate per 1000 Births
1914	16	6	21	10	2	...	14	5	17	91	119
1915	14	3	18	7	6	4	5	1	17	75	112
1916	13	2	9	2	2	1	4	3	15	51	91
1917	9	1	14	5	1	...	4	...	16	40	89
1918	3	...	4	2	...	3	1	1	12	26	74
1919	15	2	11	1	1	...	8	8	11	57	115
1920	18	1	12	1	...	...	15	3	29	79	93
1921	12	1	11	...	1	...	3	7	18	53	70
1922	8	3	9	...	2	4	4	6	20	56	83
1923	12	3	6	...	...	1	2	9	14	47	78
1924	15	...	8	4	...	...	6	3	7	43	67

DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN MONTHS.

	Under 1 Month	Under 2 Mths.	Under 3 Mths.	Under 4 Mths.	Under 5 Mths.	Under 6 Mths.	Under 7 Mths.	Under 8 Mths.	Under 9 Mths.	Under 10 Mths.	Under 11 Mths.	Under 12 Mths.	Total.
Deaths	24	3	2	3	1	2	..	2	...	1	3	2	43
Percentage of Total.	55.9	6.9	4.6	6.9	2.3	4.6	...	4.6	...	2.3	6.9	4.6	...

Table showing Infantile Mortality in the Various Wards.

Year.	C.	W.C.	N.E.	N.W.	S.E.	S.W.	Boro.
1915	127	151	128	94	57	112	112
1916	109	25	140	107	59	55	91
1917	164	77	76	79	59	104	89
1918	38	57	95	63	133	34	74
1919	154	42	108	185	73	131	115
1920	84	111	114	77	98	68	93
1921	63	47	97	87	50	53	70
1922	131	64	79	64	75	74	83
1923	119	70	81	59	63	64	78
Average for 9 yrs.	109	71	102	90	74	77	89
1924	97	114	82	40	62	52	67

There is no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children, in the town.

There is one School Clinic (at Holker House), established and maintained by the local Education Authority.

At 20, Railway Road, Darwen, there is a Tuberculosis Dispensary, under the direct control of the Lancashire County Council, where patients attend for examination once each week.

Venereal Diseases are treated at Blackburn Royal Infirmary.

The Local Authority has instituted a scheme for the supply of milk for necessitous infants and expectant and nursing mothers. During 1924 free grants in necessitous cases were made as follows:—

Milk value £57 8s. 8d., Dried Milk £34 6s. 6d., a total of £91 15s. 2d.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

For Smallpox—Two beds at Rough Height Farm House.

For other Infectious Diseases—Scarlet Fever, 1 block, 20 beds ; for Typhoid Fever 8 beds at Bull Hill Hospital.

The Typhoid Fever block at Bull Hill Hospital is loaned to the Lancashire County Council for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

During the year 24 Scarlet Fever and 1 Pneumonia cases were admitted to the Hospital.

There is no hospital accommodation (locally) for the treatment of maternity cases, or for children's ailments. The Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn, is the Union Infirmary for Darwen, etc., and admits maternity and other cases from Darwen as required.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For the removal of Infectious cases we have one horse-drawn ambulance. For non-infectious and accident cases a motor ambulance is available at Mr. H. Harwood's Station Garage in agreement with the Town Council and during 1924 was called out on 173 occasions.

LABORATORY WORK.

The number of Bacteriological Examinations is as follows—Blood, 3, Sputum 17, Throat Swabs 5, others 3.

In addition the Tuberculosis Officer's Department (Dr. MacPhee's) have examined 181 specimens of Sputum with positive result in 24 cases and a negative result in 157.

Under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order of 1910 a supply of Anti-toxin is kept at the Health Office, and the amount used by local practitioners during 1924 was 32,000 units. No other Sera or Vaccines were used.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, has been adopted (27th October, 1900), excepting Sections 5 to 11 inclusive, and Section 15.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1890, has been adopted excepting the Section relating to Music and Dancing.

Certain Sections of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907, have also been adopted, also the Darwen Corporation Acts, 1887 and 1899.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water is collected mostly from Moorland, and is of good quality.

There is no possibility of contamination in the vicinity of dwelling-houses.

There is no insufficiency.

The amount used during the year was 373,434,000 gallons; 51,312,000 being for trade purposes, the remainder for domestic use at the rate of 22.5 gallons per head per day.

The total Rainfall for the year on the Watershed was 52.99 inches, and in Bold Venture Park 58.51 inches. We had rain on 253 days.

The heaviest Rainfall was in August, with 9.16 inches, and the lowest in February, with 1.52 inches.

SCAVENCING.

The Scavenging and collection of House refuse is efficiently carried out by the Sanitary Authority.

House refuse is burnt in a Meldrum's Destructor which is situated near the Electricity Works.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The Bacteriological method is the one in use for the treatment of sewage, and appears to be efficient.

The Drainage system of the town is the one known as the combined system. There has been no new development in the system during the year, apart from the necessary cleansing and repairs.

There is no area or township without proper drainage system.

The Water and Smoke tests are applied to drains.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No legal action has been taken regarding the pollution of streams.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 74 Bakehouses and on the whole they are in a fairly good condition.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are two Slaughterhouses registered and also one licensed. The two registered are Public Abbatoirs. They are all in fairly good condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Municipal Model Lodging House is the only common lodging house in the town, and is frequently visited and inspected by Inspector Walsh.

The average daily number of lodgers for the year was 95.37, including women, as compared with 82.22 for the previous year, an increase of 13.15.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The Workshops and Workplaces are on the whole in a fairly good condition.

SCHOOLS.

The condition of the Schools on the whole is good

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 82 cowkeepers on the Registers and 36 Dairymen. One hundred and fifty Inspections have been made by the Inspectors during the year.

Regulations were made on the 4th April, 1898; these are enforced. The cubic capacity mentioned in the Regulations is 600 cubic feet per cow. The farm buildings are in a fairly good condition.

When necessary the veterinary surgeon is called in to inspect dairy cows.

No action was found to be necessary in regard to tuberculous milk.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order one Dealer's License to sell "Grade A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk has been granted.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

The various workshops, bakehouses, etc., where food is prepared are kept under strict supervision and there have been no cases of food poisoning reported to me during the year.

The amount of food surrendered or condemned as unfit for human consumption is as follows—

- (a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts—Approximate weight, 3,876 lbs., taken from 28 Beasts and 4 Pigs.
- (b) Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat, other than above—Approximate weight, 5,412 lbs., taken from 301 Beasts, 99 Sheep, 2 Calves, and 8 Pigs.
- (c) Other Foodstuffs—12 lbs. Corned Beef, 13 cwts. Potatoes, 160 lbs. Apples, and 50 tins Pears.

It was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

The number of houses disinfected during the year was 116. The Disinfecting medium used being either Sulphur or Formalin.

The apparatus at Bull Hill Hospital having become obsolete and defective a new disinfecting station and modern apparatus has been erected near the Centre of the town on a site adjoining the Electricity Works at Shorey Bank. This station was ready for functioning in January, 1925.

Arrangements have been made for bathing verminous, etc., persons if occasion arises.

It has not been necessary to carry out any disinfestation.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Twenty-three samples of milk and one of cream were purchased by the Inspectors and submitted for analysis.

One of the samples of milk was found to be deficient in Milk Fats, and the vendor was prosecuted and fined £5 including costs.

NUISANCES.

The number of Notices served by the Inspectors was as follows—

Informal Notices	801
Statutory Notices	797
The number of nuisances abated was	1645

No legal proceedings were taken.

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

The following constitutes the accommodation in this respect at the end of the year in question—

Pails	342
Water Closets	8051
Waste Water Closets	2422
Cesspools	2
Total	10817

New Water Closets fixed	54
Premises with one New Closet fixed	41
Premises with more than one New Closet fixed	10
Pails converted to Water Closets	633
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets	20
Baths installed during the year	63
Urinals installed during the year	6

There are 12 Dry Ashpits and 10,538 portable refuse receptacles, the majority of which are ashes tubs and placed under covered sheds in the yards.

The Corporation under the provisions of a Local Act contribute half cost of conversions of pails to fresh water closet. In new property only fresh water closets are allowed to be fixed.

SMOKE NUISANCE.

The Inspectors took 106 observations, each of one hour's duration, during the year.

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings but two statutory notices were served upon the occupiers of mills for emissions of Black Smoke in excess of the time limit.

The time limit allowed per hour, for the emission of Black Smoke is as follows:—One, two or three boilers, 5 minutes per hour. Four or more boilers, 7 minutes per hour.

Housing.

No. of new houses erected during year—

(a) Total	20
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts of 1919, 1923, or 1924—	
(i.) By the Local Authority	4
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	8
No. of houses in course of erection under Council's Building Scheme...	46

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing housing accommodation—

Have any advances been made during 1924—

- (a) By loans? No. No.—. Amount of Loans, Nil.
 (b) By subsidy? Yes. No. 28. Amount of Subsidies, £3,010.

UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES—

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2609
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	132
Have the particulars of these inspections been fully recorded as specified in the Regulations?	Yes.
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	68
(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation	6

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	6
--	---

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS—

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by owners of intention to close	0

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	6
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act., 1909—

(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	68
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit...	0
(4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(5) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc.	1
---	---

* Refers only to action taken in reference to housing defects.

Notices with regard to drainage and other defects should be included under Sanitary Administration.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1924.—633 pail closets were converted to water carriage system, this leaves us with 342 pails. Of this latter number 120 are within a reasonable distance of a sewer and will be converted during 1925. The remainder are situated at farms and because of their situation cannot be converted.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District.—The paving of the River Darwen which passes through the centre of the town S to N.

**BOROUGH OF DARWEN.
HOUSING ACTS, 1890 TO 1919.
BURY STREET AREA.**

OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

To the Council of the Borough of Darwen, in the County of Lancaster,

I, James Robertson, Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Darwen, hereby represent that in my opinion, within a certain area, described in the Schedule hereto,

- (a) there are certain houses, courts and alleys which are unfit for human habitation ; and
- (b) the narrowness, closeness and bad arrangement, or the bad condition of the streets and houses or groups of houses within such area, or the want of light, air, ventilation, or proper conveniences or other sanitary defects, or one or more of such causes, are dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants of the buildings in the said area or of the neighbouring buildings,

and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with the evils connected with such houses, courts or alleys, and the sanitary defects in such area, is an improvement scheme for the re-arrangement and the re-construction of the streets and houses within such area, or of some of such streets and houses.

Dated this fifth day of June, 1924.

(Signed) JAMES ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SCHEDULE OF BUILDINGS IN THE PRESCRIBED AREA.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Shorrocks Fold	Dwelling houses.
51, 52, 53, 54, 55 Bury Street	Dwelling houses.
56, 57, 58, 59, 60 Bury Street	Storerooms.
61, 62, 63, Bury Street	Dwelling houses.
50 Bury Street	Marine Store (Wood structure).
48, 49 Bury Street	Dwelling houses.
42, 43 Bury Street	Dwelling houses.
46, 47 Bury Street	Dwelling houses.
19, 25, 26, 27, 29, 32, 34A, 34, 36, 37, 38 Bury Street... ..	Dwelling houses.
Stable in Wellington Fold	
Motor Garage, etc, adjacent to 34A Bury Street	
Motor Garage adjacent to 34 Bury Street	
Office, yard and joiner's workshop, Bury Street	
8 Police Street	Dwelling house.
Two Stables, coach house, storeroom, 'The Alley'	
10, 11, 12, 13 Wellington Fold	Dwelling houses.
White Lion Public House, The Green	
100 High Street	Orange Club Premises.
101, 102, 103 High Street	Storerooms and workshops
2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 13, 13A, Greggs Gardens	Dwelling houses.
1, 1A Greggs Gardens	Used as Storerooms and Workshops.

45 Bury Street	Club Premises
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Wellington Street	Dwelling houses.
1 Wellington Court	Dwelling house.
1, 2, 3, 4 The Green	Dwelling houses.

SUMMARY.

Number of Houses :—66 (19 other buildings).

Acreage :—1.62 Acres (7856 sq. yds.) not including Main Roads (Bury Street and Police Street).

Houses per Acre :—40.8 (Houses only).

Population :—218 or 134.9 per Acre.

The area is badly and very irregularly planned and there is a general lack of those amenities necessary to healthy living, i.e. : Food storage, general washing arrangements, bathing arrangements, yards.

The arrangements are so bad as to render healthy conditions impossible. The houses are 100 or more years old and permanent dampness is a dominant feature in most if not all.

Because of the closeness of the streets and alleys and the cul-de-sac arrangements the sun cannot enter most of these houses, in fact, some of these alleys themselves fail to get direct sunlight ; there is also defective air movement around all the houses.

The houses interiorly are dark, and many have no back doors, and no through ventilation. The stonework is perished and all are without damp-proof courses.

The bad condition of the paving is such that water and filth lodge and soak into the soil.

The drainage is generally defective, in only two instances are there means of inspection. The drains and sewers in most cases run under the houses and in many houses the house drain passes directly into the sewer and is without a proper joint or trap. There are no inspection bends and no means of raking any drain for cleaning or clearance purposes. The downspouts either pass directly into sewers or discharge on ground.

With the exception of six houses there is insufficiency of sanitary conveniences, one water closet serves more than one house. They are placed at some distance from the houses they serve and are generally found in a dirty condition.

The effect of these conditions upon the health of the inhabitants is very evident. Amongst the adult population Bronchitis and Rheumatism are common. Healthy child life is impossible.

In proof of this I submit the following comparative statistics:—

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

	Per Thousand.			
	Borough.	Ward.	Area.	
Birth Rate (Average for six years, 1918--1923)	16.00 ...	15.51 ...	24.43	
Death Rate ,, ,, ,,	14.57 ...	14.16 ...	26.44	
Respiratory Death Rate ,, ,,	2.67 ...	2.33 ...	4.58	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ,, ,,	0.60 ...	0.47 ...	1.52	
Infantile Mortality (Ranges from)	70 to	42 to	125 to	
	115 ...	111 ...	333	
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to Total Births				
(same period)	4.59 ...	5.58 ...	17.25	

RATES FOR 1924.

	Per Thousand.			
	Borough.	Ward.	Area.	
Birth Rate (uncorrected)	16.04 ...	18.50 ...	27.52	
Death Rate ,, ...	14.84 ...	19.92 ...	27.52	
Respiratory Death Rate (uncorrected)	3.75 ...	5.40 ...	9.17	
Infantile Mortality Rate ,, ...	68 ...	123 ...	333	

PERCENTAGE OF DEFECTIVE CHILDREN (5 to 14 years) compared with a similar number in another part of Borough, and also comparative number out of total scholars examined in schools.

BURY STREET AREA :—% of Children suffered from Respiratory Diseases, Tuberculosis, Malnutrition, Anæmia and Rickets 55.5%

OTHER AREA :—% of Defects 15.4%

NO. OUT OF TOTAL SCHOLARS IN SCHOOLS :—% of Defects ... 17.1%

PERCENTAGE OF DEFECTIVE CHILDREN (under 5 years of age) compared with a similar number in another part of Borough.

BURY STREET AREA :—% with Defects 56.2%

OTHER AREA :—% with Defects 8.3%

	Borough.	Area.
Zymotic Death Rate 7 years (1918--1924) Average	0.24 ...	0.65

BOROUGH OF DARWEN.

UNHEALTHY AREA - BURY STREET.

PLAN SHEWING AREA OF SCHEME.



E. MARSDEN. A.M.I.C.E.
 BOROUGH ENGINEER.
 DARWEN.
 DECEMBER. 1924.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices Prosecu- tions.	
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	167 ...	13 ...	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	410 ..	21 ...	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises in- cluded in Part 3 of this Report)	148 ...	13 ...	—
Total	725 ...	47 ...	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No. of Prose- cutions.
Want of cleanliness	4 ...	4 ...	— ...	—
Want of ventilation	2 ...	2 ...	— ...	—
Overcrowding	— ...	— ...	— ...	—
Want of drainage of floors	5 ...	5 ...	— ...	—
Other nuisances	27 ...	26 ...	2 ...	—

Sanitary accommodation—

Insufficient	3 ...	2 ...	— ...	—
Unsuitable or defective	9 ...	7 ...	1 ...	—
Not separate for sexes	3 ...	2 ...	— ...	—

Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—

Illegal occupation of underground bake- houses (s. 101)	— ...	— ...	— ...	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	— ...	— ...	— ...	—
Other offences (including offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	10 ...	10 ..	— ...	—
Total	63 ...	58 ..	3 ...	—

III.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.			
	Lists received from Employers.			
	Sending twice in the year.			
	Outworkers.			
	Lists. Contractors. Workmen			
Wearing Apparel—Making, etc.	6	...	—	5

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Textile Factories	64
Non-Textile Factories	48
Factory Workshops	80
Workshops	183
Workplaces	86
Total Workshops on Register	461

V.—OTHER MATTERS.

	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remedi- able under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	8
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	9
Other	9
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year...	4

PARTICULARS OF DEATHS IN COTTON TRADE FROM VARIOUS DISEASES.

Borough Population.	Trade.	No. of Employees (approx.)	Year.	Deaths.	15 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 65		65 & up		To- tal	Death Rate	Boro' Death Rate	Boro'	• Rate up to 15 yrs.	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F						
39,182	Weavers	9626	1920	Respiratory ...	1	1	...	2	1	2	3	3	2	8	7	1.55	13.01	2.88	2.57	
				Others	4	...	5	2	2	8	10	1	3	11	24	3.63	...	10.13	12.14	
	Winders and Warpers...	1976	1920	Respiratory ...			1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	1.52	...	...	...	
				Others			2	...	3	...	3	...	1	...	9	4.56	...	...	...	
	Cardroom			Respiratory ...			...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...	
	Hands.....	400	1920	Others			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	
	Spinners	300	1920	Respiratory ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6.66	...	...	...	
				Others			...	...	...	1	...	4	...	5	...	16.66	...	...	...	
38,720	Weavers	9160	1921	Respiratory ...	2	1	1	2	2	1	3	...	1	2	9	6	1.64	11.57	2.42	3.28
				Others	2	3	2	2	1	3	9	3	8	3	22	14	3.95	...	9.15	9.14
	Winders and Warpers...	1860	1921	Respiratory ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.53	...	...	...	
				Others	1	...	3	...	1	...	6	...	...	...	11	5.91	...	...	...	
	Cardroom			Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...	
	Hands.....	400	1921	Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2.50	...	...	...	
	Spinners	300	1921	Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	
				Others	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	5	...	16.66	...	...	...	
38,800	Weavers	9000	1922	Respiratory ...	1	1	2	2	1	4	5	1	4	1	13	9	2.44	14.45	4.09	4.71
				Others	2	3	...	1	1	3	6	8	10	2	19	17	4.00	...	10.36	9.85
	Winders and Warpers...	1800	1922	Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1.11	...	...	...	
				Others	...	1	...	2	...	...	2	...	3	...	8	4.44	...	...	...	
	Cardroom			Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	5.00	...	...	...	
	Hands.....	400	1922	Others	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	5.00	...	...	...	
	Spinners	300	1922	Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3.33	...	...	...	
				Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3.33	...	...	...	
33,980	Weavers	9000	1923	Respiratory ...	...	5	1	1	1	...	5	1	5	1	10	8	2.00	13.54	3.49	2.57
				Others	...	3	1	3	...	4	10	7	16	5	27	22	5.44	...	10.05	10.14
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1923	Respiratory ...	...	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	6	3.48	...	...	...	
				Others	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	3	1.74	...	...	...	
	Cardroom			Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	
	Hands.....	400	1923	Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	...	...	...	
	Spinners	300	1923	Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	3.33	...	...	...	
				Others	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	13.33	...	...	...	
39,060	Weavers	9000	1924	Respiratory ...	1	7	3	5	2	2	6	3	3	2	15	19	3.77	14.90	3.52	2.75
				Others	3	4	2	7	2	6	7	5	11	4	25	26	5.66	...	11.38	6.37
	Winders and Warpers...	1720	1924	Respiratory ...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	5	2.90	...	...	...	
				Others	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	3	...	8	4.65	...	...	...	
	Cardroom			Respiratory ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	5.00	...	...	...	
	Hands.....	400	1924	Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2.50	...	...	...	
	Spinners	300	1924	Respiratory ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3.33	...	...	...	
				Others	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	3	1	13.33	...	...	...	

* Child population (estimated) 8,000. (Birth to age 15 years).



Meteorology.

The Meteorological Observatory is at Bold Venture Park in Lat. $53^{\circ} 41' 25''$ N., and Lon. $2^{\circ} 28' 32''$ W., and is at an altitude of 728 feet above mean sea level.

Observations are taken twice daily at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

This station is connected with the Meteorological Office, and is called a Normal Climatological Station. A report, giving all details of readings, is sent each month to the Meteorological Office, London.

The total rainfall for the year is 1486.4 millimetres, or 58.51 inches being recorded on 253 days; the average for the last eighteen years being 55.46 inches. The greatest monthly fall was in August, 238.8 millimetres; and the lowest in February 38.6 millimetres. The greatest daily fall was 49.8 millimetres, on August 20th.

The total sunshine registered on 266 days during the year was 1061.7 hours, the average for eighteen years is 1139.6 hours. April registered the highest monthly total, 134.1 hours; and December the lowest, 11.6 hours. The highest daily reading was 12.9 hours, on June 14th.

The mean minimum temperature in shade was 41.0° , being above the average for the last eighteen years, which was 40.5° . The lowest monthly mean was in March, 30.9° , and the lowest reading for the year 21.8° , on January 10th.

The maximum wind velocity was on September 21st, when a Westerly wind was blowing at the rate of 56 miles per hour.

No observations of calm were recorded, 22 observations of snow, and 13 observations of hail, 6 observations of thunder, thunderstorm on 9 days, 6 observations of hoar frost, 84 observations of mist, 61 observations of ground frost, 4 observations of snow lying, 37 observations of fog, and 1 observation of gale.

MEAN METEOROLOGICAL READINGS FOR 1923 AND 1924.

MONTH.	Barometer Corrected		Thermometers.																Hu- midity.		Sunshine (hours).		Rain (m.m.)		Wind Velocity.		Wind Direction, 1924.										C'm
			Maxi- mum.	Mini- mum.	Mean.	Earth.						Water.																									
						1 Foot.		4 Feet.		10 Feet.																											
	1923 ins.	1924 ins.	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.							
January	30.120	29.904	45.1	41.9	36.9	34.3	41.0	38.1	36.5	37.3	41.5	39.6	44.7	43.3	42.8	40.7	87	85	30.2	24.7	143.4	109.7	12	13	0	1	5	3	26	6	18	3	0				
February	29.568	30.068	52.0	39.7	34.9	32.1	43.4	35.9	39.2	37.2	41.7	39.9	43.9	42.8	41.4	40.1	85	82	39.0	33.1	236.9	38.6	12	13	8	7	7	1	4	2	21	8	0				
March	30.050	29.894	48.1	44.4	36.5	30.9	42.3	37.5	41.2	36.7	41.0	38.3	43.0	41.7	43.1	39.5	80	72	85.1	134.1	58.6	53.4	10	11	1	9	4	8	22	5	9	4	0				
April	29.773	29.872	48.4	48.4	36.5	35.0	42.5	41.7	45.2	42.6	43.6	40.6	43.5	41.6	44.4	43.3	75	77	133.1	123.8	110.1	64.3	11	11	1	8	4	2	11	10	21	3	0				
May	29.911	29.828	52.0	56.5	38.9	43.1	45.4	49.8	49.6	50.9	46.5	45.8	44.7	43.1	45.7	47.3	78	80	150.2	125.8	130.3	179.6	10	10	0	2	4	4	13	14	23	2	0				
June	30.131	29.989	58.6	61.7	46.2	47.4	52.4	54.5	54.8	57.5	49.5	51.2	46.5	46.3	49.5	51.0	79	80	118.8	126.9	43.2	90.1	11	11	2	4	1	4	11	5	28	5	0				
July	29.945	29.845	68.0	63.8	54.5	50.1	61.2	56.9	62.0	59.2	55.0	54.4	49.1	49.2	54.1	52.5	80	80	148.5	130.4	155.6	145.2	9	12	1	3	1	4	10	10	30	3	0				
August	29.861	29.793	74.5	61.1	50.2	49.5	62.3	55.3	58.9	58.1	56.1	55.2	51.8	51.3	52.9	52.1	83	85	119.7	114.2	184.6	238.8	11	11	0	0	0	1	10	9	35	7	0				
September	29.917	29.765	58.6	59.1	45.9	48.2	52.2	58.6	54.5	55.0	53.9	54.3	51.5	52.0	50.6	50.9	84	83	119.6	91.2	166.6	146.6	9	13	0	5	8	2	16	7	20	2	0				
October	29.636	29.880	51.8	53.5	42.0	43.5	46.9	48.5	48.7	49.2	50.8	51.0	51.8	51.4	47.1	48.1	86	84	63.5	96.4	206.5	140.7	13	11	1	4	1	5	23	10	16	2	0				
November	29.750	30.038	41.4	47.5	32.6	39.0	37.0	43.2	39.2	43.6	45.4	46.9	49.3	49.4	42.1	45.1	79	83	47.6	49.5	201.4	91.9	11	11	0	2	3	10	18	5	17	5	0				
December	29.947	29.350	41.7	45.8	33.0	38.9	37.0	42.3	36.4	42.4	41.3	45.0	45.8	47.4	40.3	45.0	87	86	24.6	11.6	167.4	193.5	12	14	0	0	1	2	43	8	7	1	0				
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1079.9	1061.7	1804.6	1486.4	...	..	14	45	39	46	207	91	245	45	0				
Mean	29.884	29.593	53.3	51.9	40.6	41.0	46.9	46.8	47.1	47.4	47.1	46.8	47.1	46.6	46.1	46.3	81	81	89.9	88.4	150.3	123.8	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				

REPORT
OF THE
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES
FOR THE
Year ending 31st December, 1924.

HEALTH OFFICE, DARWEN,

April, 1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my 34th Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1924.

The districts covered by the report are the Central, South-East and South-West Wards of the Borough.

The following table gives the area, population, etc.—

	Area in Acres.	Houses.	Estimated Population.
Central Ward	110	1694	6369
South-East Ward	1900	1720	6910
South-West Ward	1980	1642	6176

NUISANCES.

The number of complaints of nuisances, etc., received during 1924 was 115, in 1923 the total was 118. These complaints arose chiefly from offensive smells, defective drains, choked W.W.C.'s, etc. All complaints were attended to as early as possible.

The following Table gives a list of Inspections, notices served and result.—

Nature of Inspections.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices Served.		Result of Service of Notices.			
		Legal.	Preliminary.	Nuisances abated.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions.	
						Instituted.	Pending
Dwelling Houses.....	1224	695	466	990	70	...	...
Houses under Housing, &c., Act	48	3	6	4	1	...	...
Factories and Workshops	258	7	12	8	...	...	...
Bakehouses	114	2	4	2	...	...	...
Dairies and Cowsheds	89	9	14	27	2	...	...
Smoke Observations	46	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infectious Diseases.....	72	...	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Tips	41	...	...	...	...	...	...
Schools	32	...	6	14	...	...	...
NUISANCES—	Number Discovered						
Defective Drains.....	55	6	51	54	1	...	...
Uneven Slop Gullies.....	24	9	20	18	6	...	...
Defective W.C.'s.....	50	12	40	47	3	...	...
Defective Downspouts and Easing Troughs, ...	101	13	84	87	14	...	...
Insanitary Yards	5	2	6	3	2	...	...
Dirty Houses	28	19	20	26	2	...	...
Dirty Closets	9	1	12	7	2	...	...
Accumulations of Refuse	88	12	80	72	16	...	...
Nuisances from Animals.....	3	...	3	3	...	...	...
Insanitary Ashpits	1	...	1	1	...	...	...
Ashes Tubs without Covers	32	15	27	28	4	...	...
Broken Sloppipes ..	24	6	22	18	6	...	...
Choked Waste Water Closets..	17	2	17	16	1	...	...
Broken Ashtubs	15	2	14	12	3	...	...
Defective Closet Recep. Doors.....	7	...	7	7	...	...	...
Dangerous Closets, Walls, &c	12	2	12	11	1	...	...
Insanitary Urinals	3	1	3	2	1	...	...
Insufficient Closet Accommt'n ...	5	3	5	4	1	...	...
Broken Yard Doors, &c.....	15	2	17	11	4	...	...
Insufficient Ventilation	3	1	2	3	...	...	...
Miscellaneous	20	5	23	17	3	...	...
Closet Conversions	...	582	...	603	...	...	...

PAIL CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

DARWIN CORPORATION ACT, 1899.

The conversion of pail closets has again been the principal work in my district during 1924.

582 Statutory and preliminary notices were served to abolish pails and convert to water carriage system and the number converted were 603 as under—

	Central Ward.		South-East Ward.		South-West Ward.
Pail Closets Converted	443		156		4
Waste Water Closets Converted	0		2		7

The number of pail closets in the district at end of 1924 was 154, 84 to be converted to water carriage system and 70 at farms and districts which cannot be connected to any sewer.

There were also 17 Baths fixed and 14 new W.C.'s., together with a number of wash basins, etc., all of which were inspected.

Two hundred and fourteen agreement forms were signed in the Health Department for work to be carried out by the Highways Department as follows—

	No.
To Convert Pail Closets	138
To Open Choked W.W. Closets	15
Construct Drains for W.C.'s	35
Repair Defective Drains	19
To Open Choked W.C.'s	5
To Repair Closets	2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 1924 the number of Infectious Diseases notified in the district was 72 and in 1923 the total was 219.

The following table gives a list of notifications in Central, South-East and South-West Wards for 1924 and 1923—

WARD	Scarlet Fever		Typhoid Fever		Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Puerperal Fever		Consumption		Measles		Malaria		Pneumonia		Ophthalmia		Encephalitis		Poliomyelitis	
	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923	1924	1923
Central	9	17	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	5	10	0	33	0	0	5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
South-East ..	6	19	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	8	11	0	31	0	0	10	6	0	0	3	1	0	0
South-West ..	7	45	0	0	2	0	0	5	1	1	8	10	0	23	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0

As early as possible after receipt of a notification the premises are visited and all particulars regarding the patient and premises are obtained. Verbal and printed instructions are given to prevent the spread of the diseases.

Where children are attending school from an infected house notices are at once sent to the Education Offices, to the Headmaster of the School, and the Public Library.

In cases of removal to Hospital of patients or the recovery of the case the rooms are fumigated and bedding removed for disinfection.

During the year 13 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to Bull Hill Hospital, viz.—Central Ward 7, South-East Ward 4, South-West Ward 2.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

During 1924 thirty-two inspections were made at the Day Schools within the district. Particulars of nuisances, etc., discovered were forwarded to the Secretary of Education and Managers of the various Schools and in all cases the nuisances remedied. Reports were periodically submitted to the Health Committee.

The following is a summary of the various matters requiring attention—

Broken Water Closet Seats	4
Defective Downspouts	2
Dirty Closets	2
Defective Closet Roofs, Doors, etc.	2
Defective Gullies and Waste Pipes	1
Defective Urinals	2
Accumulations of Refuse	1

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

During the year under review I made 89 inspections of Farms and Dairies. Most of the farms are kept in clean condition but some of the old farm buildings are very defective.

The following nuisances were remedied—

Defective Drains	2	Defective Ventilation	2
Defective Gullies	3	Defective Shippon Floors	2
Insanitary Yards	3	Defective Slop Pipes	2
Defective Downspouts	3	To Limewash and Cleanse	7
Defective Roof	1	Accumulation of Refuse	2

Copies of Bye-Laws and Regulations made under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order, 1886, were distributed amongst the farmers, etc.

Cowkeepers on Register, 51.

Dairymen or Milk Purveyors, 33.

HOUSING.

INSPECTION.

Total number of Dwellinghouses inspected for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1160
Number of Dwellinghouses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations	48
Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous and injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	0
Number of Dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	0

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	0
--	---

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919.

A.—1.—Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
2.—Number of Dwellinghouses which were rendered fit—	
(a) By owner	0
(b) By Local Authority	0
C.—Proceedings under Secs. 17 and 18 of the Housing and Town Planning Acts—	
1.—Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
2.—Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
3.—Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Dwellinghouses having been rendered fit	0

4—Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
5.—Number of Houses Demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
Number of Houses Demolished voluntarily by Owners or Converted to Workshops, etc.	0

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

During the year 1924, 258 Inspections of Factories and Workshops have been made and 114 Inspections have been made to Bakehouses

I.—INSPECTIONS.

	Inspections.	Number of Notices Written.
Factories, including Factory Laundries	77	0
Workshops, including Workshop Laundries	171	13
Workplaces, Homeworkers' Premises	10	0

NUISANCES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	Defects Found.	Defects Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness ..	2	2
Want of Ventilation ..	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0
Want of Drainage to Floor	1	1
Other Nuisances	9	8
Sanitary Accommodation—		
Insufficient	0	0
Unsuitable or Defective	5	5
Not Separate for Sexes	0	0

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

	Number.
Textile Factories	32
Non-Textile Factories	12
Factory Workshops	2
Workshops	71
Workplaces	17

OTHER MATTERS.

MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (Sec. 5)	1
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NOTIFIED BY H.M. INSPECTOR.

Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	1
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) in use at end of year	2

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, Etc.

The Hippodrome and Cinemas, etc., have been periodically inspected and at my request several sanitary alterations have been carried out

SHOP HOURS ACT.

A number of inspections under the above Acts were made in various parts of the Borough and on the Market Ground.

Four cases of breaches of the Act were taken before the local magistrates. One was fined £1 and the other cases dismissed.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

The Fish, Fruit and Open Markets are continually under observation and periodical inspections are made to premises where meat and foods are prepared for and sold for human consumption.

During 1924 I condemned as unfit for food—

- 4 Boxes of Apples (about 160 lbs.).
- 16 cwt. of Potatoes.
- 50 Tins of Pears.
- 190 lbs. of Meat.

Special reports on Dairies, Cowsheds, Shop Hours Act, Schools, Pail Closet Conversions, and the Sanitary Conveniences, etc. of licensed premises, were submitted to the Health Committee every month, together with recommendations for the serving of Statutory Notices, etc. under the various Public Health Acts.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM E. MARSDEN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Etc.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE, DARWEN,

28th MARCH, 1925.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out by me during the year ending December 31st, 1924. The district is comprised of North-East, North-West and West-Central Wards. During the year 15 new houses were erected and certified, 10 in North-East Ward, and 5 in North-West Ward. At the end of the year there were 20 houses in course of erection, 2 in Bog Height Road, 16 in Laurel Avenue, and 2 in Belgrave Road.

The following Table shows number of houses, etc.—

	Houses, 1924.	Estimated Population, 1924.
WEST-CENTRAL WARD	940	3504
NORTH-EAST WARD	2355	9093
NORTH-WEST WARD	1987	7008
	5282	19605

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Total number of Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1449
Number of Dwellinghouses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	68
Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	68
Number of Dwellinghouses (exclusive of above mentioned) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	6

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	6
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B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

1	Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	6
2.	Number of Dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied—	
	(a) By Owners	6
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 17 AND 18 OF THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

1	Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders	68
2.	Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which closing orders were made	1
3	Number of Dwellinghouses in which closing orders were determined, the Dwellinghouses having been rendered fit	0
4.	Number of Dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	1
5.	Number of Dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	0

D.—	Number of Houses demolished voluntarily by owners or converted to workshops	1
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BURY STREET INSANITARY AREA.

On the 5th day of June, 1924, the Medical Officer of Health made an official representaton to the Council regarding the above area.

As required by the order full particulars were supplied to the Committee regarding the structural condition of each of the 66 dwellinghouses and 19 other buildings. The reports gave full particulars and measurements of all rooms, area of windows, sanitary accommodation, etc. All defects were carefully

enumerated and plans were submitted. Much information was also obtained in regard to the condition of health of the occupants and the nature of employment. This scheme entailed a great deal of labour and time.

For further particulars see the Medical Officer's Report.

DIRTY HOUSES.

In the monthly reports submitted to Committee, details were given of certain Houses situated in Green Street, Shorrock Fold, William Street, Burv Street, Robert St. and Gillibrand Street, which were found to be in a filthy condition. Preliminary and ultimately statutory notices were served upon the occupiers, and the cleansing was ultimately done to our satisfaction. Inspector Wilson, N.S.P.C.C., accompanied me on many occasions.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

In accordance with your instructions and the general order of the Ministry of Health, I have endeavoured, by systematic inspection, to keep myself informed in respect of any nuisance existing in the district as the following summary will show.

Total number of Nuisances discovered	550
Letters written respecting Nuisances	78
Informal Notices served respecting Nuisances	538
Statutory Notices served respecting Nuisances	152
Number of Re-inspections	1032
,, Nuisances abated (including outstanding nuisances from previous year)	565
,, Houses and Premises inspected	1449
,, Inspections of Refuse Tips	70
,, Inspections of Schools, etc.	60
Complaints received and investigated	108
Number of Drains, Water Closets, etc., Tested	25
,, Smoke Observations Taken	60
,, Inspections of Factories and Workshops	467
,, Lodging Houses	63
,, Inspections of Bake-Houses	88
,, Samples purchased (Sale of Food and Drugs Acts) ...	24

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

Number and Nature of Inspections made.	Number Inspections.	Notices Served.		Nuisances Abated.	Nuisances remaining in hand.	Prosecutions instituted
		Statutory.	Informal.			
Dwelling Houses	1449	152	538	473	...	...
Dwelling Houses (under Town Planning Act).....	68	8	21	21	2	...
Schools and Public Buildings...	60	...	7	7	...	...
Factories and Workshops	467	...	36	34	2	...
Dairies and Cowsheds... ..	61	...	18	18	...	...
Smoke Observations	60	2	2	2	...	...
Bakehouses.....	88	...	10	10	...	...
Lodging House	63	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Tips	70	...	...	...	...	...
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—						
Cases Visited.....	63	...	...	...	...	...
Rooms Disinfected.	70	...	...	...	...	...
NUISANCES—						
	Discovered					
Defective Drains and Slop Pipes	60	40	60	58	2	...
„ Slop Gullies.....	40	30	46	26	14	...
„ Soil Pipes, W.C.'s, etc.	58	27	58	48	10	...
„ Troughs & Downspouts	94	25	94	82	12	...
Insanitary Yards	15	2	15	10	5	...
Dirty Houses, etc	33	8	33	32	1	...
Dirty Closets	6	...	6	6	...	...
Accumulation of Refuse	84	...	84	70	14	...
Nuisance from Animals.....	4	...	4	4	...	...
Dangerous Buildings.....	35	...	35	30	5	...
Broken and uncovered Ashtubs..	22	10	22	18	4	...
Choked Waste Water Closets ...	38	...	38	36	2	...
Insufficient Ventilation of Rooms	3	3	3	2	1	...
Choked Sewers	2	...	2	2	...	...
Burst Water Pipes	23	...	23	23	...	...
Insufficient Water Supply	12	...	12	6	6	...
Conversion of Pail Closets to Water Carriage System	4	4	4	4	...	...
Conversion of Waste Water Closets to Water Closets...	12	0	0	12	...	...
Dry Rot in Room Floors	3	3	3	3	...	...
Miscellaneous.....	2	...	2	1	1	...

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Sixty-three cases were notified, these being distributed as follows—16 in West-Central Ward, 28 in North-East Ward, and 19 in North-West Ward. Immediately upon receipt of notification of the existence of these cases, the houses were visited and a thorough examination of the premises made, any defects in the drainage, sanitary arrangements, etc., I caused to be remedied as quickly as possible. Twelve of the patients suffering from Scarlet Fever were removed to the Bull Hill Hospital. The rooms previously occupied by

the patients were thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. During the year 70 rooms were fumigated and the bedding, etc., disinfected. A complete list of the number of cases of infectious diseases in the various wards is included in the Medical Officer's report.

BLACK SMOKE NUISANCE.

Sixty observations were taken, each of one hour's duration.

The following Time Limit is in force in the Borough—

- One, 'Two or 'Three Boilers..... 5 minutes' Black Smoke per hour.
- Four or more Boilers 7 minutes' Black Smoke per hour.

In two instances the Time Limit was exceeded and Statutory Notices were served upon the occupiers of the mills.

The following Table of Analysis of Observations shows the average amount of Black Smoke emitted in minutes per hour during the last 10 years—

1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915
2.27	2.56	2.54	2.73	3.40	3.0	2.70	2.24	2.36	2.60

Advantage has again been taken of the mills being closed owing to trade depression and holidays, etc., to carry out repairs of boilers, economisers, stokers, etc.

PARTICULARS OF THE BOILERS, ETC., AT THE VARIOUS FACTORIES IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT.

NAME OF FACTORY	No. of Boilers	No of Fires	Size of Boiler	Kind of Mechanical Stoker, etc.	Kind of Economisers	Remarks
Anaglypta	2	2	each 28ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	Superheaters fixed Also Electric Power
Anchor	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 0in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding Movable Bars	Greens	
Bank Top	1	2	32ft. 6in. x 9ft.	Proctors, Crossthwaite Bars	Greens	Superheaters
Barley Bank	1	2	32ft. x 8ft.	Proctors	Lawcocks	
Belgrave	2	2	32ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hand Fired, (Bennets Bars)	Greens	
Belgrave			32ft. x 8ft.	Benniss's Movable Bars	Greens	
Brookside	1	2	32ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Bottom Croft	2	2	each 30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired, Crossthwaite Bars	Greens	
Carrs	2	2	each 28ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Benniss's Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	Superheaters
Cobden	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Cotton Hall, Spinning	2	2	each 32ft. x 9ft.	Benniss's Stoker, Movable Bars	Greens	
Cotton Hall, Weaving	1	2	30ft. x 8ft	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Dove	1	2	30ft. x 7ft. 9in.	Hand Fired	Greens	

PARTICULARS OF THE BOILERS, ETC., AT THE VARIOUS FACTORIES
IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICTS—Continued.

NAME OF FACTORY	No. of Boilers	No. of Fires	Size of Boiler	Kind of Mechanical Stoker, etc.	Kind of Economisers	Remarks
Earnsdale Waste Works..	1	1	16ft. x 5ft.	Hand Fired	none	Also Electric Power
Eccleshill.....	1	2	30ft. x 9ft.	Hand Fired	Greens	
Electricity ...	3	2	each 30ft. x 8ft.	Yates & Thom's Bar Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	Generally only 2 boilers working
Gas Works	2	2	each 26ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Coke used
George Street.....	2	2	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Meldrums Furnace Proctors Stoker, Movable Bars	Greens	
George Street.....			32ft. x 8ft.	Proctors Stoker, Movable Bars	Greens	Forced draught
Glossit Works.....	1	1	10ft. x 3ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Electric Power
Hollins Grove.....	2	2	each 33ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Movable Bars	Greens	Also Electric Power
Hillside	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Hey Fold.....	2	2	30ft. x 8ft. 27ft. x 7ft.	Hand Fired	Greens	Coke used
High Street (Foundry)	1	1	17ft. x 3ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Hindle Street	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Goodbrands	
Hollins (Low Chimney)	3	2	each 30ft. 8ft. 6in. 28ft. x 7ft.	Eriths, Grateless	Greens	Not working
Hollins (Tall Chimney)	7	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Eriths, Grateless	Greens	
" "			Four each 30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Eriths, Grateless	Greens	
" "			Two 32ft. x 9ft. 6in.	Benniss's, Self-feeding	Greens	Superheater
Lower Wood	1	2	20ft. 6in. x 7ft. 6in.	Proctors	none	
Lorne Street	1	2	32ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	Greens	
Moss Bridge	2	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Olive... ..	1	2	32ft. x 9ft.	Benniss's Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Orehard (Paper).....	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired	none	} One chimney
Orehard (Cotton) ...	1	2	30ft. x 7ft. 6in.	Yates & Thom's Bars	Greens	
Orehard (Commercial)	1	2	30ft. x 7ft.	Proctors, Movable Bars	Greens	
Peel	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	Greens	
Provident	1	2	27ft. x 9ft.	Leach's	Greens	
Prospect	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Benniss's, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Queen Street	1	1	14ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	Roberts	Mill run by electric power
Radford	1	2	28ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired	none	
Springfield	1	1	14ft. x 6ft.	Benniss's, Movable Bars	Greens	Coke used
				Hand Fired	none	Mill run by electric power
				Meldrums Fire Box		
Sunnyhurst.....	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hodgkinson's,	Greens	{ Hamers expansion joint round boiler, Hotchkiss' water circulator
Triperies	1	1	24ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Model Lodging House	1	1	10ft. x 4ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Portable boilers
Union St. Saw Mills...	2	1	Small Portable	Hand Fired	none	Electric power also
Vale Street	1	2	30ft. x 8ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Economisers not in use
				Tetlows Smoke Box	Greens	
Walpamur	2	1	24ft. x 5ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	Vertical boiler
Walpamur			10ft. 10in. x 3ft. 6in.	Hand Fired	none	
Woodfold.....	1	2	30ft. x 8ft.	Proctors, Self-feeding, Movable Bars	Greens	
Woodside... ..	2	2	each 30ft. x 8ft.	Hand Fired	Greens	

In addition to the above there are many Factories and Workshops in the
Northern District which are run solely by Electricity or Gas.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

I.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.
Factories	90	13
Workshops	239	8
Workplaces	50	1
Bakehouses	88	12
Total	<u>467</u>	<u>34</u>

NUISANCES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	No. of Defects		Referred to H.M. Inspector
	Found.	Remedied.	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	0
Want of Ventilation	2	2	0
Defective Drainage	5	5	0
Other Nuisances	18	18	2
Sanitary Conveniences—			
Unsuitable and Defective or Insufficient ...	6	3	0
Not Separate for Sexes	3	2	1
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements (S.S. 97 to 100)	10	10	0

III.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters Notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under Public Health Acts (notified by H.M. Inspector)	8
Reports of action taken sent to Inspector	8
Certified underground Bakehouses in use at end of year	2

IV.—REGISTERED FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, &c.

Textile Factories	32
Non-Textile Factories	36
Factory Workshops	78
Workshops	112
Workplaces	69
	<u>327</u>

Four Lists of outworkers making and repairing wearing apparel were supplied to me during the year in compliance with the regulations.

LIST OF FACTORIES, FACTORY WORKSHOPS, WORKSHOPS, Etc.

Textile Cotton Factories	32	Bakers and Confectioners	66
Joiners and Builders	13	Wholesale Grocers	3
Paper and Paint Mills	5	Brush Makers	2
Engineers and Foundries	10	Tea Mixing	1
Printers	3	Painters' Preparation Workshops	7
Gas and Electricity Works, etc.	3	Polishing Paste	1
Waste Sorting Works	4	Block Cutting	2
Rope Works	1	Herb Beer Making	1
Aerated Water Works	2	Laundry	1
Box Making	1	Paper Bags and Sack Making...	2
Picture Framing	5	Tin Plate Works	3
Boots and Shoes	33	Scales and Weights	1
Chipped Potatoes	31	Saddlers	3
Ice Cream	2	Plumbers	8
Dressmakers, etc.	30	Blacksmiths	1
Hay Chopping	1	Tripe Dressing	2
Motor Repairing	7	Cabinet Makers	3
Gut Scraping	1	Marine Stores	2
Tailors	6	Stocking Knitting	1
Metal Broker	1	Electrical Engineers	2
Reed Works	2	Watch Repairing	3
Slay Makers	1	Flock Bed Dressing	1
Wheelwrights	5	Pickle Making	2
Firewood Making	1	Cooper	1
Pork Butchers	5	Metal Engraving	1
Destructor Works	1	Boiler Composition Works	1
Wringing Machine Works	1		

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 32 farms, with 67 shippens, and 4 milk shops in the Northern District. In addition there are many purveyors of milk whose farms are situated without the Borough. No dairy cows have been kept during the year at Holly Bank Farm. A few farms are used chiefly for rearing young stock. About 500 cows are stalled in the shippens, in additions to young stock and oxen. Improvements were carried out under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Regulations, as follows—

Shippon and Yard Pavement Relaid or Repaired	5
Lighting and Ventilation of Shippons Improved	8
Drains Reconstructed or Repaired	3
Repairs to Watering Trough and Service Pipes	1
New Easing Troughs and Downspouts Fixed	3
Dirty Shippons Limewashed	7
Repairs to Roofage of Shippons	3
Repairs to Dairy	2
Other Work	1
Shippon Ceiling Raised	1

Many repairs of a minor nature were also carried out.

I have continued to watch carefully the water supplies at the various farms.

Copies of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Regulations have again been supplied to each farmer and purveyor of milk.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

Many Inspections of the 12 Elementary Schools were made particularly during the vacations, viz., Easter, Mid-Summer, and Christmas, to survey the buildings and ascertain if the cleaning had been done in accordance with your requirements, as issued prior to each vacation by Mr. W. Bretherick, Secretary of Education. The work was done in accordance with instructions. Defects in the buildings, means of ventilation, drainage, and pavement of yards were referred to the Education Department for attention. Many defects were remedied. The Medical Officer of Health accompanied me to many of the Schools.

TRIPERIES, Etc.

Two tripe dressing firms occupy premises at the Corporation buildings in James Street West. The greatest possible care is exercised to avoid effluvia nuisances. The waste material is removed daily and cremated.

One gut scraper carries out the preliminary part of his work in separate premises situated at the Public Abattoirs. The casings are sent out of town to be scraped, etc. There was no cause for complaint during the year.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1875 TO 1907.

During the year I purchased 23 samples of milk and 1 sample of cream and forwarded them to the County Analyst for examination. One sample of milk numbered 31A, which was purchased from a purveyor whilst delivering

milk to his customers' houses, was found upon analysis to contain the parts as under :—Milk Fat, 2.71 per cent ; other Milk Solids, 9.10 per cent. The deficiency in milk fat was about 10 per cent. of the limit of 3.0 per cent. fixed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901. Visits were subsequently paid to the cowshed and samples of morning's and evening's milk were purchased after milking of the whole herd had been completed. Both samples upon analysis proved to be rich in milk fat. Legal proceedings were taken and a fine of £5, including costs, was imposed by the Magistrates.

I have continued to keep a sharp outlook over the various articles of food offered for sale for human consumption in the district. Six cwts. of Potatoes were condemned and destroyed. The butchers' shops are regularly visited. For particulars regarding the inspection of meat see the Meat Inspector's Report.

The 15 Fish Shops in the district have been periodically visited and many improvements to the drains, etc., have been effected.

MODEL LODGING HOUSE.

During the year there has been an increase of 13.15 per month in the number of lodgers when compared with 1923. This is the only common lodging house in the town, a distinct advantage from a public health standpoint. I frequently visited the house, often in the evening after the lodgers had retired to rest, when the number of cubicles occupied were checked and the books examined.

The following Table shows the average number of occupants for each month during the last 13 years—

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.
Jan.	72.1	111.3	121.0	84.6	65.3	59.1	53.04	59 12	70.20	94.51	80.61	91.29	82.00
Feb.	77.1	125.2	126.6	86.9	69.1	61.2	54.82	57.90	81.30	92.03	80.25	93.03	81.34
March	95.3	127.2	125.6	85.5	67.2	66.3	53.58	59.90	79.30	90.58	80.15	86.90	84.39
April 102.6	127.4	129.4	109 2	67.2	68 2	57.77	64.27	91.60	89.16	87.26	87.43	97.50	
May 96.0	126.2	127.2	88.2	53.1	66.9	54.35	68.70	93.30	79.16	91.41	86.35	98.96	
June 86.1	131.8	122.3	84.1	50.7	62.2	55.37	72.00	101.83	78.86	83.96	83.53	97.20	
July 77.1	130.1	124.1	75.7	53.1	60.0	51.26	67.24	100.12	76.77	83.45	73.25	94.64	
August ... 91.5	132.9	108.1	73 2	62.1	57.2	48.00	69.23	106.00	76.51	83.16	80.64	98.83	
Sept.....104.2	123.1	91.1	66.1	60.2	56 7	53.93	71.24	95.16	69.63	82.00	77.43	96.46	
October...113.5	128.1	94.2	58.1	60.6	57.7	54.90	74.17	89.05	67.90	81.16	75.51	99.48	
Nov. 109.1	124.2	87.2	61.2	60.0	54.7	56.47	71.70	84.60	72.83	80.13	73.26	104.9	
Dec. 108.9	122.4	79.2	64.9	61.1	51.7	59.19	68.15	88.79	81.22	86.38	78.03	108.8	
Average...	94.4	125.8	111.3	78.1	60.8	60.0	54.39	66.97	90.02	80.76	83.32	82.22	95.37

CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

During the year 3 pail closets and 12 waste water closets were converted to the water carriage system.

The remaining 40 pail closets would have been converted long ago but difficulties in regard to drainage were encountered. An endeavour is now being made to overcome these drainage problems and convert the closets.

A few pail closets cannot be converted as they are situated at too great a distance from the sewers.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

NATIONAL RAT WEEK, NOVEMBER 3rd to 10th, 1924.

During the preceding week the occupiers of mills, workshops, food stores, farms, warehouses, etc., were communicated with and supplied with copies of the Ministry's Circular No. 264 T.R. The response was good and an earnest endeavour was made to destroy Rodents, etc. The work done proved to be very effective. The various mill owners, farmers, etc., now exercise constant vigilance and a great many more cats are being kept. During the year a man was occasionally employed to place poisoned bait in selected and suitable places known to be infested and the result was satisfactory.

MANURE PITS.

The midden steads were regularly inspected and precautions were again taken to mitigate the nuisance caused by flies.

OTHER MATTERS.

At each monthly meeting of the Health Committee, in addition to the printed report, I have submitted a detailed type-written statement of the work carried out in my district.

I am pleased to say that the service of Informal and Statutory Notices had the effect of securing the abatement of nuisances.

Many Agreement Forms have been signed by owners of property for the Corporation workmen to carry out repairs, etc., to back yards, drains, etc.

This work has been done under my supervision.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

C. R. WALSH, M.R.San.Inst., M.S.I.A.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

CORPORATION ABATTOIRS,
POLICE STREET, DARWEN

MEAT INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1924.

To the Chairman and Members of the Slaughter House Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

All animals were examined upon arrival at The Abattoirs, where they were penned in the lairages, fed and rested before slaughter. The strictest supervision was at all times maintained to prevent the possibility of ill-treatment and every effort was made to ensure slaughtering being done expeditiously and in as humane a manner as possible.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

During January, 1925, a report was issued by Sir Stewart Stockman, Chief Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, which contained particulars of the outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease, not only during the year 1923, but up to 31st May, 1924, when a short interval occurred in which no outbreak of the disease existed in any part of the country. As the series of outbreaks from August, 1923, to May, 1924, which reached a total of 3,096, was the most serious epidemic for 40 years; the record of the outbreaks and of the methods used in combatting them which were described in the report assume special interest and importance. The cost to the Exchequer in compensation for slaughtered animals during that period amounted to nearly £3,350,000.

Subsequently, there were fresh outbreaks recorded from time to time in various parts of the country and whilst the town was free from the disease the restrictions imposed owing to the existence of the disease in other areas affected the movement of cattle, no doubt diminishing to some extent the number of cattle slaughtered locally during the year 1924.

SWINE FEVER REGULATIONS.

Many pigs from prescribed areas have been delivered to the Abattoirs under license and slaughtered within the time specified.

INSPECTION OF SHOPS.

Many of the retail butchers obtain their supplies from wholesale dealers without the Borough, and large consignments of chilled and frozen meat are brought into the town weekly, necessitating inspection of meat in retail shops.

Consignments of Fresh Meat have been received from Birkenhead, Bolton, Blackburn, and Wiltshire, and passed through our Abattoir store rooms.

The following Table shows the number of animals slaughtered during the year :—

NUMBER OF CATTLE SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

	BEASTS.		SHEEP AND LAMBS		CALVES		PIGS	TOTAL	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Public	Private
January.....	73	48	357	381	14	4	84	528	433
February	67	51	424	338	11	2	66	568	391
March	97	55	506	412	5	7	70	686	474
April.....	67	49	385	322	8	3	78	538	374
May	85	55	482	423	2	10	81	650	488
June	56	44	441	397	1	0	45	543	441
July	48	43	406	388	2	0	27	483	431
August	82	62	597	488	5	2	54	738	552
September	64	50	472	344	4	1	111	651	395
October.....	84	55	618	330	11	2	138	851	387
November	117	70	685	415	8	1	131	941	486
December.....	91	58	520	317	6	0	280	897	375
Total	931	640	5893	4555	77	32	1173	8074	5227

During the year it was found necessary to slaughter several animals after the usual hours, either during the evening or week-end. I was present at the Abattoirs on these occasions. Many visits to farms were also found to be necessary prior to the removal of animals to the Abattoirs.

A great many carcasses required special examination. Thirty-two were found to be affected with Tuberculosis and the entire carcasses of four beasts so affected were condemned and destroyed. The affected parts of 28 other carcasses and internal organs similarly affected were condemned and destroyed. It was also found necessary to condemn and destroy the entire carcasses and internal organs of the following animals for reasons stated, viz. :—

One beast Septicaemia.

One beast Enteritis.

One pig Hepatitis and Jaundice.

Three pigs Generalised Inflammation.

One calf Enteritis.

Six sheep Asphyxiated.

One sheep Injuries.

The total amount condemned and destroyed during the year was 9,288 lbs., as follows—

Beasts.	Number Examined.				Pigs.	Cause.	Weight in Lbs. Condemned.
28	...	—	...	—	...	4 Tuberculosis	3876
—	...	6	...	—	...	— Asphyxiated	222
—	...	—	...	—	...	1 Hepatitis and Jaundiced	60
—	...	—	...	—	...	3 Inflammation	187
—	...	1	...	1	...	2 Injuries	129
1	...	—	...	1	...	1 Enteritis	515
—	...	—	...	—	...	— Septicaemia	500
2	...	—	...	—	...	1 Abscesses	35
210	...	90	...	—	...	— Fluky and Diseased Livers ...	2302
88	...	2	...	—	...	— Unsound and Bruised Meat ...	1450
—	...	—	...	—	...	— Unsound Corned Beef	12
Total							9288

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

C. R. WALSH, M.R.San.Inst.,

Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.



SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,

CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year January 1st to December 31st, 1924.

The following is a Summary of Work done—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	
House Refuse to Destructor	14,754	...	2	...
Market Garbage to Destructor	225	...	10	...
	14,979	12	2	
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	
Clinkers removed by motor from Destructor	5335	0	0...	1067 Loads.
Sweepings to various tips			2273	„
Sweepings deposited by hand-carts at Destructor			1922	„
Gully Wreck to various tips			1175	„
Street Gullies emptied			25095	„
Length of Streets swept by hand			2717	Miles.
Length of Streets swept by machine			297	„
Excreta to Sewage Works			873	Loads.
Excretra Pails emptied			24655	
Ashes Tubs emptied			342332	
Ashpits emptied			677	
Water deposited on streets			343	Loads.
Snow removed from streets			211	„
Ashes Tubs and Dust Bins added during the year			39	„
Pails brought in from closet conversions			633	

Yours obediently,

JOSEPH NICCOLL,

Cleansing Superintendent.

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